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Berkshire County Council

REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1940

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ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY OF BERKSHIRE.

Area and Population.

The area of the administrative county of Berkshire is 454,725 acres. In 1940, the estimated civilian population of this area was 267,570 persons, an increase of 39,720 as compared with the figure for the last pre-war year.

TABLE I.

	Area in Statute Acres (Land and Inland Water).	Population.	
		Census, 1931.	Estimated, 1940. For Birth-Rate and Death-Rate.
URBAN DISTRICTS.			
1 Abingdon Borough	1,713	7,829	8,560
2 Maidenhead Borough	5,007	22,588	28,000
3 Newbury Borough	2,612	14,242	18,300
4 New Windsor Borough	4,616	20,287	21,040
5 Wallingford Borough	760	3,109	3,547
6 Wantage	2,797	3,793	4,471
7 Wokingham Borough	3,386	7,294	8,312
Total	20,891	79,142	92,230
RURAL DISTRICTS.			
1 Abingdon	41,225	11,687	19,520
2 Bradfield	53,008	14,474	17,350
3 Cookham	24,920	10,271	13,350
4 Easthampstead	27,034	18,010	21,810
5 Faringdon	55,726	9,649	10,800
6 Hungerford	44,817	8,706	9,310
7 Newbury	41,660	11,110	13,780
8 Wallingford	21,772	9,464	14,000
9 Wantage	74,179	11,673	12,300
10 Windsor	8,665	9,868	11,200
11 Wokingham	40,828	20,250	31,920
Total	433,834	135,162	175,340
Administrative County	454,725	214,304	267,570

TABLE II.—VITAL STATISTICS FOR ENGLAND AND WALES, 1940.

The following Table issued by the Registrar-General gives the principal vital statistics during the year 1940 for England and Wales, London, the 126 great Towns and 148 smaller Towns.

The corresponding figures for the County of Berks are appended for purposes of comparison.

BIRTH-RATE, DEATH-RATE, and ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY during the year 1940.

(*Provisional figures. Based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns.*)

	Rate per 1,000 Population.		Annual Death-rate per 1,000 Population.								Rate per 1,000 Births.	
	Live Births.	Still-Births.	All Causes.	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers.	Smallpox.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Whooping Cough.	Diphtheria.	Influenza.	Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under Two years).	Total deaths under one year.
England and Wales	14·6	0·55	14·3	0·00	...	0·02	0·00	0·02	0·06	0·32	4·6	55
126 County Boroughs and Great Towns including London	16·0	0·64	15·8	0·00	...	0·02	0·00	0·02	0·07	0·29	5·9	61
148 Smaller Towns (estimated resident populations 25,000 to 50,000 at Census 1931	15·7	0·55	12·8	0·00	...	0·02	0·00	0·02	0·05	0·30	4·4	54
London	13·7	0·44	17·8	0·00	...	0·01	0·00	0·00	0·01	0·18	5·8	50
Berkshire	13·9	0·46	12·7	0·00	...	0·00	0·00	·007	·003	0·33	4·5	52

BIRTHS AND BIRTH RATES.

During the year, 3,732 live births were registered for the area of the administrative county. Compared with the figure for 1939 an increase of 368 births is shown. The live birth rate for the county is 13·94 per 1,000 population. The rates for the urban and rural districts were 12·90 and 14·50 respectively. For the same period the live birth rate for England and Wales is 14·6 per 1,000 population.

One hundred and twenty-four still births, 41 of which occurred in urban and 83 in rural districts, were recorded. The still birth rate is 0·46 per 1,000 population. During the same period the still birth rate for England and Wales is 0·55 per 1,000 population.

TABLE III.

BIRTH-RATE.

(Per 1,000 of the Population.)

		Average Rate, 1930-1939.	Rate, 1940.	Number of Births, 1940.
	URBAN DISTRICTS.			
1	Abingdon Borough	14·16	15·77	135
2	Maidenhead Borough	14·05	11·21	323
3	Newbury Borough	13·85	11·58	212
4	New Windsor Borough	14·27	13·73	289
5	Wallingford Borough	11·25	13·53	48
6	Wantage	10·16	12·74	57
7	Wokingham Borough	12·36	15·15	126
	RURAL DISTRICTS.			
1	Abingdon	18·42	17·92	350
2	Bradfield	12·97	12·33	214
3	Cookham	14·78	13·10	175
4	Easthampstead	12·78	13·06	285
5	Faringdon	15·08	16·29	176
6	Hungerford	15·79	17·18	160
7	Newbury	13·27	12·98	179
8	Wallingford	17·12	16·92	237
9	Wantage	14·43	13·65	168
10	Windsor	13·57	14·01	157
11	Wokingham	14·79	13·81	441
	Urban Districts	13·70	12·90	1,190
	Rural Districts	14·71	14·50	2,542
	County	14·36	13·94	3,732

DEATHS AND DEATH RATE.

During the year, 3,410 deaths were registered, an increase of 648 as compared with the number recorded in the previous year ; 2,084 of the recorded deaths were in respect of persons over 65 years of age.

The principal registered causes of death are shown in the following table :—

Heart Disease	832
Cancer	420
Intra-cranial vascular lesions	333
Pneumonia and Bronchitis	429
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	102
Other diseases of circulatory system	174

The death rate for the administrative county was 12·74 per 1,000 population as compared with 11·49 for the previous year ; the rates for the urban and rural districts are 14·10 and 12·03 respectively.

TABLE IV.

NET DEATH RATE.

(Per 1,000 of Population.)

		Average Rate, 1930-1939.	Rate, 1940.	Number of Deaths, 1940.
	URBAN DISTRICTS.			
1	Abingdon Borough	12·43	14·95	128
2	Maidenhead Borough	12·02	13·28	372
3	Newbury Borough	13·14	13·71	251
4	New Windsor Borough ...	12·57	13·68	288
5	Wallingford Borough	13·37	12·96	46
6	Wantage	13·21	12·97	58
7	Wokingham Borough	13·66	19·00	158
	RURAL DISTRICTS.			
1	Abingdon	10·08	9·52	186
2	Bradfield	11·33	12·96	225
3	Cookham	11·32	11·83	158
4	Easthampstead	10·71	11·92	260
5	Faringdon	12·04	13·33	144
6	Hungerford	11·79	16·11	150
7	Newbury	11·86	12·55	173
8	Wallingford	9·53	9·64	135
9	Wantage	12·35	14·55	179
10	Windsor	11·04	13·21	148
11	Wokingham	11·32	10·99	351
	Urban Districts	12·71	14·10	1,301
	Rural Districts	11·17	12·03	2,109
	County	11·70	12·74	3,410

CANCER.

The number of deaths from Cancer registered in 1940 is 420, as compared with 421 for the previous year.

The death rate from cancer, 1·56 per 1,000 population, compares favourably with 1·75 for the year 1939.

Classification of Deaths from Cancer into various Age Groups.

Age groups ...	1-15 yrs.	15-45 yrs.	45 to 65 yrs.	65 and upwards.
No. of deaths ...	—	21	146	253

Table showing the average death rate from cancer for the period 1930-39, the rate for 1940, and the number of deaths from cancer in each urban and rural district of the administrative county.

TABLE V.

		Average for 10 years, 1930-1939.		1940.	
		Number of Deaths.	Rate.*	Number of Deaths.	Rate.*
	URBAN DISTRICTS.				
1	Abingdon Borough... ...	14·6	1·90	14	1·63
2	Maidenhead Borough ...	38·6	1·85	48	1·71
3	Newbury Borough ...	26·2	1·85	36	1·96
4	New Windsor Borough ...	37·5	1·92	40	1·90
5	Wallingford Borough ...	4·9	1·65	4	1·12
6	Wantage	8·2	2·03	6	1·34
7	Wokingham Borough ...	14·7	1·96	16	1·92
	RURAL DISTRICTS.				
1	Abingdon	19·3	1·37	18	·92
2	Bradfield	25·6	1·70	29	1·67
3	Cookham	21·7	1·74	17	1·27
4	Easthampstead	28·2	1·48	31	1·42
5	Faringdon	17·0	1·79	16	1·48
6	Hungerford	12·4	1·42	12	1·28
7	Newbury	18·6	1·56	24	1·74
8	Wallingford	13·3	1·23	12	·85
9	Wantage	20·8	1·76	20	1·62
10	Windsor	16·2	1·68	27	2·41
11	Wokingham	39·5	1·71	50	1·56
	Urban Districts	144·7	1·88	164	1·77
	Rural Districts	232·6	1·59	256	1·45
	County	377·3	1·69	420	1·56

* Per 1,000 of Estimated Population.

INFANT MORTALITY.

197 deaths of children under the age of one year were registered during the year. Of this number 109 were certified as being due to congenital debility and premature birth. As compared with the corresponding rates for the period 1930-1939 the infant mortality rate for 1940 shows an increase.

TABLE VI.

INFANT MORTALITY.

		Average Rate, 1930-1939.	Rate, 1940.	Number of Deaths, 1940.
	URBAN DISTRICTS.			
1	Abingdon Borough	39·59	74·07	10
2	Maidenhead Borough	48·40	65·00	21
3	Newbury Borough	38·99	47·16	10
4	New Windsor Borough	48·87	65·74	19
5	Wallingford Borough	27·19	20·83	1
6	Wantage	55·66	17·54	1
7	Wokingham	41·12	39·68	5
	RURAL DISTRICTS.			
1	Abingdon	38·35	40·00	14
2	Bradfield	41·34	74·76	16
3	Cookham	51·82	51·42	9
4	Easthampstead	38·16	49·12	14
5	Faringdon	35·13	45·45	8
6	Hungerford	38·71	62·50	10
7	Newbury	34·32	27·93	5
8	Wallingford	44·63	63·29	15
9	Wantage	43·06	35·71	6
10	Windsor	33·87	63·69	10
11	Wokingham	42·28	52·15	23
	Urban Districts	44·89	56·30	67
	Rural Districts	40·54	51·14	130
	County	41·97	52·78	197

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

During 1940, 7 maternal deaths, 2 of which were attributed to puerperal sepsis, were registered. The maternal mortality rate of 2·0 per 1,000 births is the lowest recorded for the county in the past ten years.

Table showing the maternal mortality rate for the past 10 years :—

TABLE VII.

Year.	Total (Live and Still) Births.	Deaths from		Maternal Mortality per 1,000 (Live and Still) Births.
		Puerperal Sepsis.	Other Diseases and Accidents of Parturition.	
1931	3,306	7	9	4·8
1932	3,266	6	8	4·2
1933	3,173	3	5	2·5
1934	3,183	6	14	6·2
1935	3,266	8	4	3·6
1936	3,242	6	8	4·3
1937	3,307	1	8	2·7
1938	3,239	3	5	2·4
1939	3,487	4	8	3·4
1940	3,856	2	5	2·0

MIDWIVES ACT, 1936.

The arrangements made by the County Council to fulfil their statutory obligations under the Midwives Act, 1936, still prove adequate to meet the demands made on this particular service.

At the end of the year 184 midwives were practising in the county area. Of these, 108 were engaged in domiciliary midwifery practice and 76 were employed in either general hospitals, public assistance institutions or nursing homes. The Council's scheme provides for the employment of 5 whole-time midwives, 3 of whom have been allocated to special districts and 2 to undertake duties in any area in which a midwife is required for holiday duty, illness, etc.

Of the total number of midwives practising in the county area, 91 were employed by district nursing associations. There were 70 such associations undertaking midwifery in the area of the administrative county. Of this number, 60 were affiliated to the Berkshire County Nursing Association, 5 were independent of that body and 5, although undertaking midwifery in Berkshire, are located in adjoining areas.

Table showing the number of cases attended by midwives in the area of the Local Supervising Authority during the year :—

	Domiciliary cases.	Cases at Institutions.	Totals.
1. Employed by the Council—			
As midwives	142	252	394
As maternity nurses	17	12	29
2. Employed by Voluntary Associations—			
(a) Under arrangement with Local Supervising Authority in pursuance of Section 1 of the Midwives Act—			
As midwives	1583	—	1583
As maternity nurses	419	—	419
(b) Others—			
As midwives	50	187	237
As maternity nurses	23	197	220
3. In private practice—			
As midwives	179	75	254
As maternity nurses	32	175	207
Totals—			
As midwives	1954	922	2876
As maternity nurses	491	404	895

Compared with the figure for 1939, there is a considerable increase in the number of cases attended by midwives during the year.

Table classifying notifications received, under the Rules of the Central Midwives Board, by the Local Supervising Authority :—

Sending for medical aid	1,101
Stillbirth	40
Laying out a dead body	43
Artificial feeding	54
Contact with infection	57
Death of infant	20
Death of mother	1

The number of cases in which medical aid was sought by midwives again shows the progressive increase noted in previous years.

Inspection of Midwives.

The non-medical supervisors of midwives visited all midwives periodically and submitted reports on the results of their investigations to the County Medical Officer. They also visited and submitted reports on all cases of either puerperal fever or ophthalmia neonatorum.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

Ante Natal Service.

The importance of efficient ante natal supervision for patients is repeatedly brought to the notice of midwives. It is satisfactory to note that increased use has been made during the past year of the County Council's scheme. During the year, 1,435 patients were examined under the provisions of this scheme—a slight increase as compared with the number recorded for the preceding year. During 1940, 12,402 visits were made to expectant mothers and records compiled in respect of each case.

Ante natal clinics were held at Ascot, Cookham, Didcot, Finchampstead, Kingston Lisle, Sunninghill, Thatcham, Wantage and Wokingham. In view of the arrangements previously described the attendances at these clinics were small, only 49 patients attended during the year.

Ante natal clinics were held at the following hospitals :—

The Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford.
The Royal Berkshire Hospital, Reading.
King Edward VII Hospital, Windsor.

Post Natal Examination.

All midwives are urged to instruct their patients in regard to the importance and advantages of a medical examination towards the end of the lying-in period. Although 751 patients were examined during the past year, it is hoped that in future even greater use will be made of the facilities provided.

Provision for the Services of a Consultant.

The services of a consultant, free of cost to the patient, are available to any medical practitioner who may desire assistance in respect of a domiciliary maternity case either during pregnancy, at the time of confinement or during the puerperium.

During the year, 21 such consultations were held. A circular containing the names of the consultants who had consented to act under the provisions of this scheme has been sent to all doctors practising in the area of the administrative county.

Maternity Hospitals.

Arrangements have been made whereby all patients suffering from those complications of pregnancy which require treatment in a maternity department of a general hospital, can be admitted to one or other of the following institutions :—

The Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford.
The Royal Berkshire Hospital, Reading.
Swindon Borough Maternity Home, Swindon.
King Edward VII Hospital, Windsor.

Table showing the number of patients admitted to these hospitals during the past five years :—

Hospital.	1936.	1937.	1938.	1939.	1940.
Radcliffe Infirmary	18	29	33	57	56
Royal Berkshire Hospital	56	45	59	72	97
King Edward VII Hospital ...	14	5	2	17	16
Swindon Borough Maternity Home	—	—	1	—	5
	88	79	95	146	174

Two hundred and seventy-nine cases of uncomplicated pregnancy in which it was considered that either the home or financial circumstances were such that adequate care and attention was unlikely to be otherwise secured, were admitted to the maternity wards of the County Council Emergency Hospitals at Maidenhead, Newbury, Wallingford, Wantage, Wokingham or Old Windsor.

Puerperal Pyrexia.

During the year 27 patients suffering from puerperal pyrexia, 11 of whom were admitted to hospital, were notified. Two deaths occurred. Special investigations were made in all cases and instructions regarding adequate preventive measures given.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

Fifteen cases of ophthalmia neonatorum were notified, two of which necessitated hospital treatment. No impairment of vision as the result of the disease occurred. All the cases were visited and reports submitted to the County Medical Officer.

Supply of Extra Nourishment.

Milk, both liquid and dried, cod liver oil, etc., is supplied either free of charge or at cost price to mothers and children at many of the welfare centres in the county area. 155 gallons of liquid and 7,403 lbs. of dried milk were supplied during 1940 from these centres.

Dental Treatment.

Fifty-three applications for dental treatment received approval during the year and all necessary arrangements were made for the work to be undertaken by private dental practitioners.

Sterilised Maternity Outfits.

During the year 38 sterilised maternity outfits were supplied, free of cost, to patients whose home circumstances were such that the provision of an outfit was desirable.

Infant Welfare Centres.

All Infant Welfare Centres situated in the county area are managed by local voluntary committees who arrange for the periodical attendance of a medical practitioner at the centres. Either a county health visitor or a district nurse is in attendance each time a centre is open. At certain clinics, special sessions are held for toddlers.

During the year, 1,710 children attended for the first time at the 28 welfare centres situated in the county area. This is an increase as compared with the previous year's figures.

Health Visiting.

Domiciliary visits, to children under 5 years of age, are made at frequent intervals and health records compiled in respect of each child. During the year, 19,224 visits were made to children under the age of 1 year and 26,959 to children between the ages of 1 and 5 years. These figures are similar to those of the preceding year.

Treatment of Children under the Age of 5 Years.

Children under the age of 5 years suffering from either dental or visual defects are referred for treatment to one or other of the clinics of the Berkshire Education Authority. During the year 40 children with visual defects and 100 with dental disease were treated. Six children suffering from crippling diseases received treatment at the Wingfield-Morris Orthopaedic Hospital, Headington.

Child Life Protection.

At December 31st 1940, there were 70 persons undertaking for reward the maintenance and care of 109 children under the age of nine years apart from their parents or having no parents. All such boarded-out children are visited at regular intervals by the Child Life Protection Visitors who are members of either the whole-time county health visiting or school nursing staff. The standard of care and attention given to boarded-out children by foster parents is satisfactory.

Nursing and Maternity Homes.

At December 31st, 1940, there were 39 registered nursing homes in the area of the administrative county. Of this number 14 undertook general medical and surgical work, 7 admitted maternity cases only, and the remainder provided for the nursing of either convalescent or senile patients.

NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS.

During the year 2,706 notifications of births occurring in the area of the administrative county—2,147 notified by midwives and 559 by either medical practitioners or parents—were received. Records of all notifications of birth are forwarded to the appropriate health visitor in order that home visitation may be arranged.

VACCINATION.

The vaccination officer reports that 1,273 certificates of successful primary vaccination and 1,471 declarations of conscientious objection to vaccination were received during the year.

GOVERNMENT EVACUATION SCHEME.

The full services of the County Maternity and Child Welfare Scheme have been extended to all expectant and nursing mothers and children under 5 years of age who have been evacuated to various parts of the administrative county. In addition, the following Maternity Homes and Hostels have been opened under the instructions of the Ministry of Health.

MATERNITY HOMES.

Folly Farm, Sulhamstead.
Oakley House, Frilford Heath.
Frilford St. Peter, Frilford Heath.
" Rashleighs," Maidenhead.
Upton Lodge, Upton.

ANTE-NATAL HOSTELS.

Brooklands, Abingdon.
Fieldside, Blewbury.
White Lodge, Maidenhead.

POST-NATAL HOSTEL.

" Eboracum," Wokingham.

The following statistics, compiled up to and including September 30th, 1941, refer to patients evacuated under the above Scheme.

Number of expectant mothers confined in emergency maternity homes	1,181
Number of expectant mothers confined in the maternity wards of the County Council Emergency Hospitals	316
Number of expectant mothers confined in private nursing homes ...	146
Number of expectant mothers confined in billets	515

Twelve evacuated expectant mothers applied for dental treatment, under the County Maternity and Child Welfare Scheme, of which 10 were approved and have received the necessary treatment.

TUBERCULOSIS.

During the year 1940, primary notifications under the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1912, were received for 246 Pulmonary and 86 Non-pulmonary cases, making a total of 332 for all forms of tuberculosis.

This is an increase compared with the previous years—part of which is due to evacuees.

TABLE VIII.
ANNUAL NUMBER OF NOTIFICATIONS RECEIVED SINCE 1931.

	Pulmonary.	Non-Pulmonary.	Total.
1931	196	53	249
1932	172	68	240
1933	183	46	229
1934	153	43	196
1935	198	47	245
1936	196	49	245
1937	163	35	198
1938	145	55	200
1939	176	67	243
1940	246	86	332

MORTALITY.—The number of certified deaths from all forms of tuberculosis was 124. Of these 102 were due to pulmonary and 22 to non-pulmonary tuberculosis.

The death rate per 1,000 estimated population was :—

Pulmonary tuberculosis	0.38
Non-pulmonary tuberculosis	0.08

TABLE IX.

ALL NEW CASES AND ALL DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS CLASSIFIED INTO THE VARIOUS AGE GROUPS FOR THE YEAR 1940.

Age. Periods.	All New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—	...	...	2	...	...	...	1	1
1 — 5	...	1	8	5	...	...	4	2
5 — 15	5	5	20	16	1	1	1	1
15 — 45	90	100	15	15	26	30	4	4
45 — 65	27	17	4	4	22	15	1	1
65 and upwards	5	2	1	1	6	1	2	...
Totals ...	127	125	50	41	55	47	13	9

TABLE X.

PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.

The number of deaths and the death rate per 1,000 estimated population in the Urban and Rural Districts of the County for the year 1940 compared with the average figures for the preceding 10 years.

	Average for 10 years, 1930-1939.		1940.	
	Number of Deaths.	Rate.	Number of Deaths.	Rate.
URBAN DISTRICTS.				
1 Abingdon Borough ...	4·8	·62	5	·58
2 Maidenhead Borough ...	11.6	·55	14	·50
3 Newbury Borough ...	5·9	·41	3	·16
4 New Windsor Borough ...	12·1	·62	9	·42
5 Wallingford Borough ...	·9	·30	1	·28
6 Wantage	2·6	·64	2	·44
7 Wokingham Borough ...	3·4	·45	2	·24
RURAL DISTRICTS.				
1 Abingdon	6·6	·46	7	·35
2 Bradfield	5·1	·34	5	·28
3 Cookham	4·6	·36	3	·22
4 Easthampstead	9·0	·47	7	·32
5 Faringdon	3·1	·32	7	·64
6 Hungerford	3·8	·43	4	·42
7 Newbury	3·0	·25	4	·29
8 Wallingford	6·4	·59	8	·57
9 Wantage	6·4	·54	3	·24
10 Windsor	4·0	·41	4	·35
11 Wokingham	8·4	·36	14	·43
Urban Districts	41·3	·53	36	·39
Rural Districts	60·4	·41	66	·37
County	101·7	·45	102	·38

TABLE XI.

NON-PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.

The number of deaths and the death rate per 1,000 estimated population in the Urban and Rural Districts of the County for the year 1940 compared with the average figures for the preceding ten years.

		Average for 10 years, 1930-1939.		1940.	
		Number of Deaths.	Rate.	Number of Deaths.	Rate.
	URBAN DISTRICTS.				
1	Abingdon Borough ...	·8	·10	...	...
2	Maidenhead Borough ...	2·6	·12	1	·03
3	Newbury Borough ...	1·5	·10	2	·10
4	New Windsor Borough ...	1·9	·09	1	·04
5	Wallingford Borough ...	·4	·13	...	...
6	Wantage	·4	·09	...	...
7	Wokingham Borough ...	·5	·06	...	...
	RURAL DISTRICTS.				
1	Abingdon	1·9	·13	3	·15
2	Bradfield	1·2	·08	2	·11
3	Cookham	1·1	·08	...	...
4	Easthampstead	1·6	·08	3	·13
5	Faringdon	·2	·02	2	·18
6	Hungerford	·6	·06	...	...
7	Newbury	1·3	·10	2	·14
8	Wallingford	1·4	·13	1	·07
9	Wantage	1·5	·12	2	·16
10	Windsor	2·2	·22	1	·08
11	Wokingham	3·2	·13	2	·06
	Urban Districts	8·0	·10	4	·04
	Rural Districts	16·2	·11	18	·10
	County	24·2	·10	22	·08

Institutional Treatment.

Treatment was provided by the County Council in the following institutions :—

Berks and Bucks Joint Sanatorium, Peppard Common.

Number of adult cases admitted	92
,, ,, ,, ,, discharged	95
,, ,, children admitted	24
,, ,, ,, discharged	31

Abingdon Sanatorium.

Number admitted	60
,, discharged	60

Surgical Cases.

Wingfield-Morris Orthopaedic Hospital and Cold Ash Children's Hospital. Twenty-five cases of tuberculosis disease of bones and joints were admitted and 23 were discharged.

Thirty-four pulmonary cases were admitted to special institutions for surgical treatment during the year and 33 were discharged. Eighteen non-pulmonary cases were admitted to voluntary hospitals and 17 were discharged.

Tuberculosis Dispensaries.

During the year, 545 new cases and 93 contacts were examined. Of this number, 321 were considered to be tuberculous and 317 not tuberculous. The total attendances at the dispensaries was 1,543.

The Tuberculosis Officer had 97 personal and 1,180 other consultations with medical practitioners. 1,973 home visits were made by the Tuberculosis Officer and 4,547 visits by Health Visitors and District Nurses. The number of radiological examinations was 396.

Collapse Therapy.

The number of patients receiving artificial pneumo-thorax refills, which was given by the Tuberculosis Officer at their homes, has greatly increased. The number of refills given was 972.

Bacteriological Examination.

529 specimens of sputum were examined and tubercle bacilli were found in 70 of these specimens.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Diphtheria.

The number of cases of diphtheria notified during the year was 214 as compared with 216 in the previous year. The districts in which the disease was most prevalent were Maidenhead Borough 32 cases, Wokingham Rural District 58 cases and Wallingford Rural District 31 cases. The number of cases removed to isolation hospitals was 177. Eight deaths were reported as being due to the disease.

Scarlet Fever.

Three hundred and sixty cases of scarlet fever were notified during the year, an increase of 61 compared with the previous year's figure. The districts in which the disease was most prevalent were Wokingham Rural District 46 cases, Abingdon Rural District 34 cases, and Maidenhead Borough 39 cases. Two hundred and fifty-nine cases were removed to isolation hospitals. No deaths occurred from the disease.

Enteric Fever.

Eight cases of enteric fever were notified, 5 of which occurred in Maidenhead Borough, 1 in New Windsor Borough, 1 in Abingdon Rural District and 1 in Newbury Rural District. All the cases were removed to hospital. No deaths were reported from this disease.

Cerebro-Spinal Fever.

One hundred and six cases were notified and 23 deaths from this disease were reported.

Poliomyelitis.

The number of cases notified was 2. Of these, 1 was notified in Easthampstead Rural District and 1 in Wokingham Rural District. Neither case was removed to hospital.

Non-Notifiable Diseases.

The incidence of non-notifiable diseases was very slight, German measles and influenza being the most prevalent. One school was closed on account of infectious disease and the number of certificates given on account of attendances falling below 60 per cent. was 210 as compared with 48 in 1939.

HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION FOR INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Hospital.	*No. of Beds.*
Abingdon Isolation Hospital	50
Maidenhead Isolation Hospital...	54
Newbury Isolation Hospital	22 (including 6 cots).
Wallingford Isolation Hosptal	34

Smallpox.

The County Council have made arrangements enabling any case of smallpox occurring in the county area to be admitted to the Reading County Borough Smallpox Hospital, Manor Farm, Reading.

TABLE XII.

NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE, 1940.

	Diseases Notified.	Cases notified in Urban Districts.								Cases notified in Rural Districts.												
		Abingdon Borough.	Maidenhead Borough.	Newbury Borough.	New Windsor Borough.	Wallingford Borough.	Wantage	Wokingham Borough.	Total Urban Districts.	Abingdon.	Bradfield.	Cookham.	Easthampstead.	Faringdon.	Hungerford.	Newbury.	Wallingford.	Wantage.	Windsor.	Wokingham.	Total Rural Districts.	Total County.
1	Smallpox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2	Diphtheria and Membranous Group ...	3	32	3	13	2	...	15	68	5	3	19	22	2	1	2	31	2	1	58	146	214
3	Erysipelas...	2	8	7	3	...	1	7	28	9	1	...	3	2	5	4	17	3	1	17	62	90
4	Scarlet Fever	26	39	11	28	1	26	20	151	34	13	10	26	18	10	18	13	10	11	46	209	360
5	Typhus Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
6	Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	...	5	...	1	...	...	...	6	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	2	8
7	Puerperal Pyrexia	1	4	3	3	2	...	...	13	3	...	...	1	3	6	1	...	1	2	4	21	34
8	Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	2	10	13	16	4	4	2	51	13	3	5	...	2	4	6	9	5	1	7	55	106
9	Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	2
10	Polioencephalitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
11	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	2	2	3	...	...	...	...	1	2	1	...	4	13	15
12	Pneumonia	7	13	19	26	7	1	8	81	13	40	4	24	6	20	24	26	6	6	20	189	270
13	Dysentery...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	2	...	1	...	19	...	...	...	22	25
14	Pulmonary Tuberculosis	14	26	19	20	2	5	6	92	21	12	13	16	7	3	8	12	11	12	36	151	243
15	Tuberculosis other than Pulmonary ...	5	...	5	6	2	4	2	24	9	9	3	3	5	...	3	3	5	2	20	62	86
16	Encephalitis Lethargica	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
17	Malaria	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
18	Continued Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
19	Pemphigus Neonatorum	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
20	Measles	242	271	262	86	26	4	189	1080	347	133	100	243	40	64	188	328	171	31	132	1777	2857
21	Whooping Cough...	7	1	8	18	17	2	2	55	5	21	7	6	27	2	4	25	45	...	12	154	209
		312	410	351	220	63	47	253	1656	462	238	161	348	112	116	259	486	260	67	357	2866	4522

TABLE XIII.—TABLE OF NOTIFICATIONS AND REMOVALS TO HOSPITAL.

The number of Cases treated in Hospital is in each instance inserted in brackets.

	Smallpox.			Scarlet Fever.			Diphtheria and Membranous Croup.			Enteric Fever.			Totals.		
URBAN DISTRICTS.	1938	1939	1940	1938	1939	1940	1938	1939	1940	1938	1939	1940	1938	1939	1940
1 Abingdon Borough ...	...	...	...	22 (22)	13 (13)	26 (26)	...	...	3 (3)	...	1 (1)	...	22 (22)	14 (14)	29 (29)
2 Maidenhead Borough ...	...	...	...	22 (18)	20 (18)	39 (36)	24 (24)	51 (51)	32 (30)	...	2 (2)	5 (1)	46 (42)	73 (71)	76 (67)
3 Newbury Borough ...	...	...	...	36 (30)	32 (19)	11 (5)	1 (1)	...	3 (3)	1 (1)	...	...	38 (32)	32 (19)	14 (8)
4 New Windsor Borough	...	...	...	43 (29)	19 (15)	28 (22)	59 (58)	26 (26)	13 (6)	2 (1)	...	1 (1)	104 (88)	45 (41)	42 (29)
5 Wallingford Borough ...	...	...	...	2 (2)	1 (1)	1 (1)	8 (8)	1 (1)	2 (2)	...	...	...	10 (10)	2 (2)	3 (3)
6 Wantage	...	...	...	2 (2)	14 (7)	26 (22)	...	...	...	...	...	...	2 (2)	14 (7)	26 (22)
7 Wokingham Borough ...	...	...	...	3 (2)	2 (1)	20 (14)	11 (11)	27 (26)	15 (10)	...	...	...	14 (13)	29 (27)	35 (24)
Totals	...	...	...	130 (105)	101 (74)	151 (126)	103 (102)	105 (104)	68 (54)	3 (2)	3 (3)	6 (2)	236 (209)	209 (181)	225 (182)
RURAL DISTRICTS.															
1 Abingdon	...	...	...	46 (29)	34 (32)	34 (31)	2 (2)	7 (7)	5 (5)	...	...	1 (1)	48 (31)	41 (39)	40 (37)
2 Bradfield	...	...	...	21 (3)	9 (6)	13 (7)	34 (34)	2 (2)	3 (3)	...	...	...	55 (37)	11 (8)	16 (10)
3 Cookham	...	...	...	15 (11)	12 (9)	10 (7)	9 (9)	5 (5)	19 (21)	...	...	...	24 (20)	17 (14)	29 (28)
4 Easthampstead ...	...	...	...	32 (23)	13 (10)	26 (22)	8 (7)	15 (14)	22 (22)	...	...	...	40 (30)	28 (24)	48 (44)
5 Faringdon	...	...	...	12 (9)	12 (4)	18 (6)	4 (4)	13 (13)	2 (1)	...	...	...	16 (13)	25 (17)	20 (7)
6 Hungerford	...	...	...	3 (2)	12 (3)	10 (4)	...	...	1 (1)	...	...	...	3 (2)	12 (3)	11 (5)
7 Newbury	...	...	...	11 (5)	21 (9)	18 (1)	3 (3)	2 (1)	2 (2)	1 (1)	...	...	15 (9)	23 (10)	20 (3)
8 Wallingford	...	...	...	15 (8)	2	13 (7)	6 (6)	26 (17)	31 (31)	...	...	1 (1)	21 (14)	28 (17)	45 (39)
9 Wantage	...	...	...	15 (7)	23 (6)	10 (6)	...	2 (1)	2 (2)	1 (1)	...	...	16 (8)	25 (7)	12 (8)
10 Windsor	...	...	...	30 (21)	7 (3)	11 (6)	20 (18)	2 (2)	1 (1)	2 (2)	...	...	52 (41)	9 (5)	12 (7)
11 Wokingham	...	...	...	70 (28)	52 (39)	46 (36)	26 (26)	38 (27)	58 (34)	3 (2)	...	...	99 (56)	90 (66)	104 (70)
Totals	...	...	...	270 (146)	197 (121)	209 (133)	112 (109)	112 (89)	146 (123)	7 (6)	...	2 (2)	389 (261)	309 (210)	357 (258)

TABLE XIV.

EPIDEMIC DEATH-RATE, 1940.

(Per 1,000 of Estimated Civil Population).

For purposes of comparison it is convenient to group the commoner epidemic diseases in a single table and for the same reason I have given the total epidemic death-rate for each District.

	Principal Epidemic Diseases.	Smallpox.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Whooping Cough.	Enteric Fever.	Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 years).
URBAN DISTRICTS.								
1 Abingdon Borough ...	·11	...	...	...	...	...	...	·11
2 Maidenhead Borough ...	·10	...	...	...	·07	...	...	·03
3 Newbury Borough ...	·05	...	...	...	...	...	...	·05
4 New Windsor Borough ...	·09	...	...	...	...	...	...	·09
5 Wallingford Borough ...	·28	...	...	...	...	...	...	·28
6 Wantage	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
7 Wokingham Borough ...	·24	...	...	...	·12	...	...	·12
RURAL DISTRICTS.								
1 Abingdon...	·10	...	...	...	...	...	...	·10
2 Bradfield	·11	...	...	...	...	...	...	·11
3 Cookham	·07	...	...	...	...	...	...	·07
4 Easthampstead	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5 Faringdon	·18	...	...	...	...	...	...	·18
6 Hungerford	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
7 Newbury	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
8 Wallingford	·28	...	...	...	·21	·07	...	...
9 Wantage	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10 Windsor	·26	...	...	...	...	...	...	·26
11 Wokingham	·09	...	...	...	·06	·03	...	...
Urban Districts	·10	...	...	...	·03	...	...	·07
Rural Districts	·09	...	...	...	·02	·01	...	·06
County	·07	...	...	...	·003	·007	...	·06

TABLE XV.

EPIDEMIC MORTALITY DURING TEN YEARS, 1930-1939.

	Total Number of Deaths.								Death-Rate per 1,000 of Population.							
	Principal Epidemic Diseases.	Small-pox.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Diph-theria.	Whoop-ing Cough.	Enteric Fever.	Diarr-hoea.	Principal Epidemic Diseases.	Small-pox.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Diph-theria.	Whoop-ing Cough.	Enteric Fever.	Diarr-hoea.
URBAN DISTRICTS.																
1 Abingdon Borough ...	12	...	4	...	6	...	2	...	·15	...	·05	...	·08	...	·02	...
2 Maidenhead Borough	28	...	5	2	9	3	...	9	·10	...	·002	·009	·04	·01	...	·04
3 Newbury Borough ...	28	...	5	...	11	3	1	8	·19	...	·03	...	·07	·02	·007	·05
4 New Windsor Borough	34	...	8	1	10	9	...	6	·17	...	·04	·005	·05	·04	...	·03
5 Wallingford Borough	4	...	...	...	3	...	...	1	·13	...	...	...	·10	...	...	·03
6 Wantage	3	...	2	...	...	...	...	1	·07	...	·05	...	...	...	...	·02
7 Wokingham Borough	7	...	1	2	3	1	...	...	·09	...	·01	·02	·04	·01	...	...
RURAL DISTRICTS.																
1 Abingdon	17	...	3	...	3	6	...	5	·12	...	·02	...	·02	·04	...	·03
2 Bradfield	12	...	1	1	5	3	...	2	·08	...	·006	·006	·03	·02	...	·01
3 Cookham	19	...	2	1	4	5	1	6	·15	...	·01	·008	·03	·04	·008	·05
4 Easthampstead ...	16	...	2	1	4	5	1	3	·08	...	·01	·005	·02	·03	·005	·01
5 Faringdon	14	...	1	4	2	4	...	3	·15	...	·01	·04	·02	·04	...	·03
6 Hungerford	4	...	...	...	2	...	...	2	·04	...	...	...	·02	...	...	·02
7 Newbury	15	...	...	2	7	2	...	4	·12	...	...	·01	·06	·01	...	·03
8 Wallingford	11	...	1	1	1	1	...	7	·10	...	·009	·009	·009	·009	...	·06
9 Wantage	18	...	4	4	1	3	...	6	·15	...	·03	·03	·008	·02	...	·05
10 Windsor	6	...	2	1	...	...	2	1	·06	...	·02	·01	...	...	·02	·01
11 Wokingham	34	...	6	2	7	9	6	4	·14	...	·02	·008	·03	·04	·02	·01
Urban Districts ...	116	...	25	5	42	16	3	25	·15	...	·03	·006	·05	·02	·004	·03
Rural Districts ...	166	...	22	17	36	38	10	43	·11	...	·01	·01	·02	·02	·006	·03
County	282	...	47	22	78	54	13	68	·12	...	·02	·01	·03	·02	·005	·03

TABLE XVI.—CAUSES OF AND AGES AT DEATH, 1940.

Administrative County of Berks.

Cause of Death.	Net Deaths at the subjoined Ages of "Residents," whether occurring within or without the County.						
	All ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5 years.	5 and under 15 years.	15 and under 45 years.	45 and under 65 years.	65 and upwards.
Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cerebro-spinal fever ...	23	3	4	6	5	4	1
Scarlet fever...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping cough	2	1	1	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria	8	...	4	4	...	...	...
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	102	...	...	2	56	37	7
Other forms of tuberculosis	22	2	6	2	8	2	2
Syphilitic diseases	12	...	...	...	2	5	5
Influenza	89	5	2	...	8	33	41
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute poliomyelitis and polioencephalitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute infantile encephalitis	3	...	...	...	2	1	...
Cancer of buccal cavity and oesophagus (M) uterus (F)	50	...	...	...	2	13	35
Cancer of stomach and duodenum	75	...	...	...	3	28	44
Cancer of breast	36	...	...	...	3	20	13
Cancer of all other sites ...	259	...	...	...	13	85	161
Diabetes	34	...	...	...	7	10	17
Intra cranial vascular lesions	333	...	...	...	1	68	264
Heart disease	832	...	...	2	30	178	622
Other diseases of circulatory system	174	...	...	...	1	12	161
Bronchitis	251	7	4	1	5	42	192
Pneumonia	178	36	17	3	14	31	77
Other respiratory diseases...	42	1	...	1	5	11	24
Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	34	...	...	...	4	19	11
Diarrhoea under two years	17	14	3	...	...	...	...
Appendicitis	11	...	...	2	3	3	3
Other digestive diseases ...	67	4	...	1	11	18	33
Nephritis	76	...	...	...	7	19	50
Puerperal and post abortion sepsis	2	...	...	...	2	...	...
Other maternal causes ...	5	...	...	...	5	...	...
Premature birth	51	51	...	...	...	...	...
Congenital malformation birth injuries, infantile diseases	61	58	1	...	2	...	...
Suicide	29	...	...	...	8	14	7
Road traffic accidents ...	58	...	1	2	26	20	9
Other violent causes ...	80	5	4	3	22	14	32
All other causes	394	10	7	9	30	65	273
All causes	3410	197	54	38	285	752	2084

TABLE XVII.—CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT, DEATH, 1940.

Urban Districts.

Cause of Death.	Deaths belonging to all Urban Districts.							Deaths belonging to each District (at all ages).						
	All Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5 years.	5 and under 15 years.	15 and under 45 years.	45 and under 65 years.	65 and upwards.	Abingdon Borough.	Maidenhead Borough.	Newbury Borough.	New Windsor Borough.	Wallingford Borough.	Wantage.	Wokingham Borough.
Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cerebro-spinal fever	9	1	1	1	3	3	...	2	1	1	3	...	1	1
Scarlet fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria	3	...	1	2	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	1
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	36	...	...	1	17	16	2	5	14	3	9	1	2	2
Other forms of tuberculosis	4	...	1	1	1	1	...	...	1	2	1	...	...	...
Syphilitic diseases	5	...	...	...	1	2	2	1	2	...	1	1	...	...
Influenza	42	2	...	...	5	18	17	1	13	8	1	3	3	13
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute poliomyelitis and polioencephalitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute infantile encephalitis	2	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...
Cancer of buccal cavity and oesophagus (M) uterus (F)	17	...	...	...	1	2	14	3	7	3	3	1	...	...
Cancer of stomach and duodenum	27	...	...	...	2	9	16	1	5	10	5	1	3	2
Cancer of breast	12	...	...	...	1	6	5	1	4	4	3	...	...	...
Cancer of all other sites	108	...	...	...	7	33	68	9	32	19	29	2	3	14
Diabetes	10	...	...	...	4	1	5	...	6	1	2	...	...	1
Intra-cranial vascular lesions	140	...	...	...	...	29	111	12	42	26	33	3	9	15
Heart disease	298	...	...	1	10	73	214	20	104	52	64	10	12	36
Other diseases of circulatory system ...	84	...	...	...	...	8	76	4	8	44	22	2	1	3
Bronchitis	93	2	1	1	1	19	69	12	25	16	27	2	5	6
Pneumonia	72	10	7	1	3	13	38	4	23	16	21	2	1	5
Other respiratory diseases	15	1	...	...	3	3	8	2	1	4	2	1	3	2
Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	9	...	...	...	2	5	2	...	3	...	4	2	...	...
Diarrhoea under two years	7	5	2	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	2	1	...	1
Appendicitis	3	...	...	1	1	1	...	...	1	1	1	...	...	...
Other digestive diseases	33	1	...	1	4	9	18	5	11	3	7	1	4	2
Nephritis	26	...	...	...	3	6	17	2	6	1	5	1	1	10
Puerperal and post abortion sepsis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other maternal causes	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Premature birth	20	20	...	...	...	...	...	2	6	5	5	1	1	...
Congenital malformation, birth injuries, infantile diseases	20	19	...	...	1	...	...	2	6	1	8	...	...	3
Suicide	11	...	...	...	2	6	3	1	2	3	2	2	...	1
Road traffic accidents	16	...	...	...	7	4	5	2	4	3	4	1	...	2
Other violent causes	36	2	...	2	7	9	16	4	11	3	7	1	4	6
All other causes	142	4	2	3	12	18	103	32	28	21	17	7	5	32
All causes	1301	67	15	15	100	295	809	128	372	251	288	46	58	158

TABLE XVIII.—CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT, DEATH, 1940.

Rural Districts.

Cause of Death.	Deaths belonging to all Rural Districts.							Deaths belonging to each District (at all ages).										
	All Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5 years.	5 and under 15 years.	15 and under 45 years.	45 and under 65 years.	65 and upwards.	Abingdon.	Bradfield.	Cookham.	Easthampstead.	Faringdon.	Hungerford.	Newbury.	Wallingford.	Wantage.	Windsor.	Wokingham.
Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cerebro-spinal fever	14	2	3	5	2	1	1	1	...	4	...	1	1	2	1	2	...	2
Scarlet fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping cough	2	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Diphtheria	5	...	3	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	2
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	66	...	...	1	39	21	5	7	5	3	7	7	4	4	8	3	4	14
Other forms of tuberculosis	18	2	5	1	7	1	2	3	2	...	3	2	...	2	1	2	1	2
Syphilitic diseases	7	...	...	...	1	3	3	...	1	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Influenza	47	3	2	...	3	15	24	3	9	...	7	5	...	4	4	4	...	11
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute poliomyelitis and polioencephalitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute infantile encephalitis	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Cancer of buccal cavity and oesophagus (M) uterus (F)	33	...	...	...	1	11	21	1	4	3	6	5	2	5	2	2	1	2
Cancer of stomach and duodenum	48	...	...	...	1	19	28	9	8	3	5	1	2	1	4	3	5	7
Cancer of breast	24	...	...	...	2	14	8	...	4	...	2	3	2	4	...	3	3	3
Cancer of all other sites	151	...	...	...	6	52	93	8	13	11	18	7	6	14	6	12	18	38
Diabetes	24	...	...	...	3	9	12	1	3	1	3	1	2	4	1	4	2	2
Intra-cranial vascular lesions	193	...	...	...	1	39	153	16	25	20	24	6	15	19	14	12	19	23
Heart disease	534	...	...	1	20	105	408	30	53	49	74	55	38	38	19	53	41	84
Other diseases of circulatory system ...	90	...	...	...	1	4	85	3	25	4	5	2	13	22	1	3	5	7
Bronchitis	158	5	3	...	4	23	123	25	9	13	20	8	10	10	10	19	4	30
Pneumonia	106	26	10	2	11	18	39	11	9	9	8	9	11	5	11	14	3	16
Other respiratory diseases	27	...	...	1	2	8	16	4	1	1	4	1	...	3	2	3	4	4
Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	25	...	...	...	2	14	9	4	2	2	4	1	...	2	4	2	2	2
Diarrhoea under two years	10	9	1	...	...	...	...	2	2	1	...	2	...	...	...	...	3	...
Appendicitis	8	...	...	1	2	2	3	...	...	3	1	...	...	1	1	...	1	1
Other digestive diseases	34	3	...	...	7	9	15	3	3	4	1	3	3	2	3	5	2	5
Nephritis	50	...	...	...	4	13	33	7	8	4	7	...	2	5	3	3	...	11
Puerperal and post abortion sepsis	2	...	...	...	2	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Other maternal causes	4	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	1	1	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...
Premature birth	31	31	...	...	...	...	...	4	4	1	5	1	3	...	2	1	3	7
Congenital malformation, birth injuries, infantile diseases	41	39	1	...	1	...	...	4	5	3	6	2	5	2	4	...	1	9
Suicide	18	...	...	...	6	8	4	1	3	2	2	...	1	2	...	2	...	5
Road traffic accidents	42	...	1	2	19	16	4	6	5	2	1	2	2	5	4	4	3	8
Other violent causes	44	3	4	1	15	5	16	6	4	1	4	6	1	...	4	3	8	7
All other causes	252	6	5	6	18	47	170	26	17	11	42	13	25	16	22	20	15	45
All causes	2109	130	39	23	184	458	1275	186	225	158	260	144	150	173	135	179	148	351

VENEREAL DISEASE.

The County Council have made arrangements for the treatment of persons suffering from venereal diseases at clinics held at the Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford, and the Royal Berkshire Hospital, Reading.

Patients are seen at the following times :—

THE RADCLIFFE INFIRMARY, OXFORD.

Men—Wednesday, 6 p.m. Saturday, 3 p.m.
Women—Monday, 6 p.m. Wednesday, 3 p.m.

THE ROYAL BERKSHIRE HOSPITAL, READING.

Men—Wednesday, 2 p.m. Saturday, 5 p.m.
Women—Wednesday, 5 p.m. Saturday, 3 p.m.

The following particulars have been supplied by the medical officer in charge of the clinics.

At the Royal Berkshire Hospital, Reading, 149 cases were seen for the first time during the year. Of this number, 36 were suffering from syphilis, 63 from gonorrhoea and 50 were not suffering from venereal disease.

Of the 19 cases seen for the first time at the Radcliffe Infirmary, 4 were suffering from syphilis, 6 from gonorrhoea and 9 were not suffering from venereal disease.

The total number of attendances made by patients at the clinics were 1,637. Of this number 1,459 attendances were made at the Royal Berkshire Hospital, Reading, and 178 at the Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford.

In some instances, in-patient treatment was necessary and the number of in-patient days of patients so treated amounted to 862 at the Royal Berkshire Hospital, Reading.

Travelling expenses amounting to £53 9s. 11d. were paid to necessitous cases.

PATHOLOGICAL SPECIMENS.

Examination of materials submitted by medical practitioners from patients suspected to be suffering from venereal disease is made in the pathological laboratories of the following hospitals :—

St. Thomas' Hospital, London.
The Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford.
The Royal Berkshire Hospital, Reading.

MENTAL DEFICIENCY ACTS, 1913-1938.

INSTITUTIONAL TREATMENT.

At the end of the year 279 mentally defective persons were receiving institutional treatment. Of this number 55 were being maintained in institutions situated outside the County of Berkshire, and 96 females and 128 males were in-patients at the County Council's approved institutions for mental defectives at Bradfield and Easthampstead. During the year, inspections were made at regular intervals at both institutions by the members of the Mental Deficiency Act Committee as well as by the Board of Control's inspectors. From the reports subsequently received it would appear that the patients are being adequately cared for and that the facilities provided for the training of the defectives are satisfactory.

In 1940, 23 defective patients were admitted to institutions, 1 was released on licence and 8 died.

STATUTORY SUPERVISION.

There were 107 defectives under statutory supervision during the year. All cases were visited quarterly by the County Health Visitors, who submitted reports to the County Medical Officer.

VOLUNTARY SUPERVISION.

At the end of the year there were 119 patients under voluntary supervision. All were seen at regular intervals by the county health visitors who submitted reports to the County Medical Officer.

BLIND PERSONS ACT, 1920.

The report of the Berkshire County Blind Society showed that there were 317 persons on their register on 31st March, 1941, compared with 306 the previous year. During the year, 46 new cases were registered.

The total number of cases referred to the certifying ophthalmic surgeons was 40 and, of these, 3 were certified as not being blind within the meaning of the Blind Persons Act, 1920. Thirty of those certified as blind were over 60 years of age.

During the year, 1 person who had previously been certified as blind was removed from the register as her sight had improved so much that she no longer came under the definition of a blind person. Twenty-three blind persons died and 12 left the county to reside in other areas.

Home teachers continued their domiciliary visits to blind persons.

At the end of the year there were 16 blind home workers in the county.

Domiciliary assistance was granted to an increased number of cases.

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE INSTITUTIONS.

At the request of the Ministry of Health, arrangements were made for increasing the number of beds by crowding and using other rooms at the institutions. Certain alterations and additions of sanitary arrangements were necessary. Finally, increased accommodation was made as follows :—

Newbury	...	...	Increase of	72 beds.
Wallingford	...	...	,,	64 ,,
Maidenhead	...	...	,,	46 ,,
Wokingham	...	...	,,	54 ,,
Windsor	...	...	,,	51 ,,
Wantage	...	...	,,	28 ,,

At all these institutions there is a shortage of nurses' accommodation and efforts will be made to employ the extra nurses required from the local nursing organisations. All the institutions, with the exception of Windsor, are classified as Grade 2 hospitals, *i.e.* for convalescent patients. Windsor Institution has been made a Grade 1A hospital and huts to accommodate 260 patients have been erected.

MILK SUPPLY.

At the end of the year there were 1,160 registered cowkeepers in the county, a considerable increase compared with the figure for the previous year. The number of persons licensed during the year for the production of Tuberculin Tested Milk was 135 and for Accredited Milk 319.

Milk and Dairies Consolidation Act, 1915. Section 8 empowers local authorities to take samples of milk consigned to their district from outside areas. If, on examination, any sample is found to contain tubercle bacilli, notice to this effect is sent to the medical officer of health of the area in which the milk was produced. During the year notices were received from the following authorities :—

Local Authority.	Number of samples containing tubercle bacilli.
West Berks United Sanitary Districts ...	2
Bucks County Council	8
London County Council	6

The milk from which these samples were taken was stated to have been produced in the following districts in this county :—

	Number of samples.
Cookham Rural	4
Newbury Rural	2
Wallingford Rural	1
Wantage Rural	4
Wantage Urban	1
Wokingham Rural	4

On receipt of such notices, information is forwarded to the Divisional Veterinary Inspector of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries who makes any necessary investigations. The number of cows found to be suffering from tuberculosis as a result of these investigations was 15.

The County Agricultural Instruction Department takes samples of milk for bacteriological examination at regular intervals and undertakes a large amount of advisory work in connection with clean milk production.

Reports are also submitted to the Milk and Dairies Committee on the sanitary circumstances of premises where milk is produced.

The following table shows the number of visits made by the Agricultural Organiser's staff during 1940 :—

(a) Previous to granting a licence for the production of a graded milk	103
(b) After the granting of a licence for the production of a graded milk	584
Number of milk samples taken for bacteriological examination	2,869
Number of samples submitted for investigation work (where trouble had to be traced)	209
Visits of advice apart from above	258

A. Richmond,

County Medical Officer and Chief Tuberculosis Officer.

11 Abbot's Walk,
Reading.
27 *November*, 1941.

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